

Message Text

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LAGOS PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP
SUBJECT: COVERAGE OF AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S AFRICAN TRIP

1. SUMMARY: THE FOLLOWING EXCERPTS DEAL WITH PRESS COVERAGE
OF AMB. YOUNG'S TRIP TO AFRICA AND RELATED TOPICS, FEB. 9,
END SUMMARY.

2. NEW YORK TIMES FEB. 9 STORY BY JOHN DARNTON FROM KADUNA
HEADLINED QUOTE YOUNG ATTENDS A VAST PAGEANT IN NORTH
NIGERIA. END QUOTE. EXCERPT FOLLOWS: QUOTE AMONG THE
40,000 SPECTATORS, WHOSE BRIGHTLY DYED TURBANS AND
ROBES SOMETIMES MATCHED THOSE OF THE PERFORMERS IN THE
OVAL STADIUM, WERE EIGHT AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE AND
ANDREW YOUNG, THE UNITED STATES DELEGATE TO THE UNITED
NATIONS. MR. YOUNG MET FOR AN HOUR TONIGHT WITH PRESIDENT
AGOSTINHO NETO OF ANGOLA FOR DISCUSSIONS THAT AN
AIDE SAID CENTERED ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. IT WAS THE FIRST
TOP-LEVEL CONTACT BETWEEN AN AMERICAN ENVOY AND THE ANGOLAN
HEAD OF STATE SINCE THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE
LIBERATION OF ANGOLA HEADED BY DR. NETO OVERWHELMED
THE FORCES BACKED BY THE UNITED STATES IN THE ANGOLAN
CIVIL WAR. AN AIDE TO MR. YOUNG SAID HE DID NOT
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KNOW IF THE TWO DISCUSSED NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. DURING THE AFTERNOON'S DUR-
BAR, MR. YOUNG WAS GIVEN A PROMINENT SEAT IN THE FIRST
ROW OF THE REVIEWING STAND, HE SAT NEXT TO BRIG. JOSEPH
GARBA, THE NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
AND ONLY ONE SEAT AWAY FROM THE SULTAN OF SOKOTO, SIR
ABUBAKAR, THE MOST POWERFUL TRADITIONAL LEADER IN THE

COUNTRY. UNQUOTE.

3. WALL STREET JOURNAL FEB. 9 SAID: QUOTE THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ANDREW YOUNG, JOINED ANGOLA'S MARXIST PRESIDENT, AGOSTINHO NETO, AND OTHER BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS ON A TRIP TO CENTRAL NIGERIA FOR A TRIBAL FESTIVAL. THE U.S. REMAINS AT ODDS WITH NETO'S GOVERNMENT, WHICH WON THE ANGOLAN WAR WITH THE AID OF CUBAN TROOPS. UNQUOTE

4. WASHINGTON POST FEB. 9 STORY BY JONATHAN RANDAL FROM KADUNA HEADLINED QUOTE AFRICAN EXTRAVAGANZA OUTSHINES HOLLYWOOD UNQUOTE. AMBASSADOR YOUNG MENTIONED AS ONE OF THE VIP SPECTATORS AND ALSO THAT HE SAT ONE SEAT AWAY FROM SULTAN OF SOKOTO.

5. NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL FEB. 9 ON MURDER OF ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES ENTITLED THE TERROR OF RHODESIA. EXCERPT FOLLOWS: QUOTE EVERYONE WILL LOSE FROM THE TERROR IF IT CONTINUES AND IT WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE MODERATE FORCES ON ALL SIDES ARE BROUGHT BACK INTO ACTIVE DIPLOMACY. THE UNITED STATES ASSUMED A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY...LAST YEAR WHEN IT CREATED AN INITIAL FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATIONS TO PASS POWER FROM THE WHITE REGIME OF PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH TO A LOOSE COALITION OF BLACK NATIONALISTS. THE NEGOTIATIONS BROKE DOWN IN DECEMBER AMID THREATS OF INCREASED GUERRILLA WARFARE AND CHARGES OF BAD FAITH. IF AMERICAN DIPLOMACY, COORDINATED WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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BRITISH, CANNOT REACTIVATE THOSE NEGOTIATIONS, THE NEWS FROM RHODESIA PROMISES TO BECOME MORE FRIGHTENING STILL. THE SMITH GOVERNMENT MUST BE PRESSURED, IF NECESSARY, TO RETURN TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE. THE BLACKS MUST BE PRESSURED, IF NECESSARY, TO OFFER A SLATE OF MODERATE LEADERS READY TO ASSUME POWER. BOTH SIDES MUST BECOME PERSUADED THAT THERE IS NO OTHER WAY TO AVOID THIS GHASTLY SLAUGHTER. UNQUOTE.

6. KINGSBURY SMITH IN COLUMN IN HEARST PAPERS SAID QUOTE IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT ANDREW YOUNG, PRESIDENT CARTER'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS, WILL LEARN DURING HIS CURRENT FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO AFRICA SOMETHING MORE ABOUT THE FACTS OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION THAN HAS BEEN REFLECTED IN HIS RECENT STATEMENT. HE TOLD DAN RATHER IN A CBS TELEVISION INTERVIEW LATE LAST MONTH THAT THE ONLY WAY HE COULD INNER QUOTE JUSTIFY END INNER QUOTE CUBAN MILITARY INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA WAS THE PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES THERE.

IF HE HAD STOPPED IN LONDON EN ROUTE TO AFRICA HE
COULD HAVE LEARNED THAT CUBAN TROOPS WERE FIGHTING
IN ANGOLA TWO MONTHS BEFORE SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY
FORCES INTERVENED. THIS DISCLOSURE WAS MADE IN A
SPECIAL REPORT ON THE ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR BY ROBERT MOSS,
EDITOR OF INNER QUOTE FOREIGN REPORT,
END INNER QUOTE A CONFIDENTIAL WEEKLY OF THE ECONOMIST,
ONE OF BRITAIN'S MOST REPUTABLE PUBLICATIONS.

7. THE NEW REPUBLIC FEB. 12 ISSUE HAS ARTICLE BY
COLIN LEGUM, ASSOCIATE EDITOR OF THE LONDON OBSERVER,
WITH THESE COMMENTS ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG, QUOTE THERE
IS A RESPONSIBILITY ON ANDREW YOUNG HIMSELF NOT TO
PROVOKE UNNECESSARILY THE HOSTILITY OF IMPORTANT
CONSTITUENCIES -- AS HE ALMOST CERTAINLY DID BY HIS
ATTEMPT TO JUSTIFY THE ROLE OF CUBANS IN ANGOLA AS
PROVIDING SOME KIND OF ORDER THERE. THIS KIND OF
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STATEMENT COULD EQUALLY JUSTIFY THE RUSSIAN INTERVEN-
TION IN HUNGARY OR CZECHOSLOVAKIA. THE CUBAN LEADERS
ARE NOT PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH HELPING TO ESTABLISH
ORDER IN THE WORLD; THEY ARE PROUD TO ADMIT THAT THEIR
CONCERN IS TO HELP INNER QUOTE THE INTERNATIONAL
REVOLUTION END INNER QUOTE. THERE IS CLEARLY SOME
RISK IN TRYING TO OVERCOMPENSATE FOR MISTAKES MADE BY
KISSINGER IN HANDLING THE CUBAN PRESSURE IN ANGOLA, BY
OVERLOOKING THE ESSENTIAL FACT THAT THE CUBANS AND
RUSSIANS INTERVENED IN WHAT WAS A CIVIL WAR. THE
OFFICIAL JUSTIFICATION FOR THEIR MILITARY ROLE IS THAT
IT WAS NECESSARY TO OPPOSE THE INVASION FROM SOUTH
AFRICA; BUT THEIR INTERVENTION IN FACT OCCURRED MONTHS
BEFORE THE FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS HAD CROSSED
THE FRONTIER. UNQUOTE
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